

APPENDIX A.

REPORT OF NORMAL SCHOOL.

To DAVID ALLISON, Esq., L.L. D.,

Sir,—

The following Report of the Normal School for the Session 1876-7 is respectfully submitted :—

The total number of students enrolled was one hundred and forty, of whom forty-three attended the full session. During the Winter Term, from the first of January to the end of April, we had over one hundred in attendance, the largest number attending at any one time in the history of the Institution. We were compelled to fit up temporary desks and seats, and to crowd the building much beyond what was consistent with comfort, progress, or health.

Seventy-three students were awarded Normal School Diplomas,—twelve in grade "Superior," forty-seven in grade "Good," and fourteen in grade "Fair." Sixty-seven received no Diploma, the cause in most cases being insufficient attendance.

Many of those who already held license left the Institution at the end of April to take charge of schools. Of those examined for license at the end of the Session in July, eighteen were successful in obtaining Grade B, of whom twelve were young ladies. The number obtaining Grade C was fifty-one.

The Governor General's Silver Medal was awarded to Miss M. H. Lockwood of Cornwallis; the Bronze Medal, to Miss M. Brown of Truro.

With a view to increase the efficiency of the Institution on our removal to the new building in November, 1878, I would offer a few suggestions.

The standard of admission should be raised at least to that of grade D. In my opinion it would be well to require that applicants for admission should actually hold a license; or to make arrangements by which they can be examined in their own county. Otherwise some may incur considerable expense in travelling from remote parts of the Province, and fail to gain admission through inability to pass the required examination.

Under our present regulations, students are admitted at any time. This is very detrimental to the interests of the institution. Those who come in late are unable to join classes which have been organized at the beginning of the session, with any great profit to themselves; and they are to some extent a barrier to the progress of the others. I would suggest that none be admitted after the day of formal opening, which is one week after the day of nominal opening. If any exceptions were made, it should be in favor of old students of high standing.

The time of attendance required to render a student eligible for a Normal School Diploma should be increased. Three-fourths of one session, or school year, is all that is now demanded. If the time has not arrived for a course of study extending over two or three years, one full session, at the very least, should be required.

According to existing regulations, in some cases the Normal School Diploma is given as a separate document; in other cases the Normal School standing is recited or inscribed in the Provincial License. A uniform plan should be